



# St Francis Primary School Nathalia

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*St Francis will provide a child safe environment where all children have the right to be treated with respect and will be protected from harm.*

## Teaching and Learning Policy

### **Commitment to Child Safety:**

All students enrolled, and any child visiting have the right to feel safe and be safe. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we have zero tolerance to child abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and are free to enjoy life to the full without any concern for their safety.

St. Francis is a Child Safe School. Parents and Carers are required to read our Child Safe Policies and Procedures, available on our school website [www.sfnathalia.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sfnathalia.catholic.edu.au) as part of your acceptance of enrollment. These policies and procedures **must** be adhered to.

### **Rationale:**

This policy provides the common foundation for our learning and teaching at St Francis. It provides the belief framework by which we deliver the formal mandated curriculum requirements and Source of Life Religious Education Curriculum. It helps us interpret or seek out current educational thinking to provide for the learning needs of our school community.

### **St Francis Vision & Graduate Outcomes Statement Links:**

### **Our Identity:**

St Francis' school is a welcoming community striving to live the Franciscan tradition of Peace and Joy.

### **Our Vision**

St Francis' Nathalia strives to:

- Provide a positive learning environment with a commitment to being safe, responsible and caring learners
- Build a community with a sense of responsibility to create a sustainable future for God's world.
- Build an inclusive community that fosters respectful relationships for all.
- Build and nurture a stimulating learning environment where all are supported in reaching their full potential.

## **Graduate Outcomes**

St. Francis School endeavours to educate students who:

- Are committed to developing their spirituality.
- Strive for personal excellence.
- Have respect for themselves, others and the environment.
- Are motivated to take an active role in society.
- Are passionate and skilled independent learners.

## **Basic Beliefs:**

At St Francis we believe:

- All students can learn.
- An inclusive school actively engages and works in partnership with families & the wider community.
- Learning and Teaching is evidence based.
- Educators learn best when they work collaboratively.
- There are essential proficiencies for student learning.
- Effective educators are critical to learning.
- Learning and teaching are inclusive of all student's different interests and learning styles.
- The traditions of the Catholic Church provide a foundation to develop the whole student.
- Engaged, self-motivated and independent learners take ownership and responsibility for their learning and can work with others in collaboration.
- As a community, we share responsibility for all students' learning.

## Aims for Learning & Teaching and Guidelines for Implementation

We Aim to:	We will do this by:
Plan using data and student artefacts to inform teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Using evidence to inform our practice.</li> <li>● Having a strong emphasis on formative and summative feedback to support learning.</li> <li>● Utilising technology to monitor the growth of the child from Foundation to Year Six.</li> </ul>
Use current best practice to enhance student learning and promote growth in every individual student .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Providing opportunity for deep thinking, inquiry and questioning.</li> <li>● Differentiating the learning.</li> <li>● Utilising multimodal learning opportunities.</li> <li>● Acknowledging different learning preferences.</li> <li>● Using mandated curriculum (Victorian Curriculum and RE Source of Life).</li> </ul>
Create a learning environment that is stimulating and safe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Allowing for opportunities to learn in real world contexts.</li> <li>● Providing safe learning spaces and environment.</li> </ul>
Create opportunities for all students to learn.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide opportunities for students to set, monitor and evaluate achievable personal goals.</li> <li>● Identifying and providing formal and moment in time intervention.</li> <li>● Negotiating Personal Learning Plans.</li> </ul>
Providing a strong positive relationship with God and His Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Being welcoming and inclusive of all.</li> <li>● Celebrate the Catholic Faith.</li> <li>● Modelling and evangelising the teachings of the Church.</li> </ul>
Be active members of a professional learning community to provide an environment that supports and challenges students and educators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Engaging in professional learning communities, professional development and staff meetings.</li> <li>● Being involved in collegial planning</li> <li>● Undertaking additional study</li> <li>● Utilising in-school specialists, CEO support staff and other expertise.</li> </ul>
Acknowledge and celebrate learning successes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Acknowledging, through various media and public forums, individual and group successes.</li> </ul>
Promote a safe school environment that encourages risk taking, critical thinking, and resilience for all members of the wider school community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Promoting the PBIS framework to all members of the school community and monitor behaviours.</li> <li>● Encourage students to take risks, value and share ideas in all their day-to-day learning.</li> <li>● Being actively responsible, informed and accountable of all OHS requirements.</li> <li>● Incorporating social skills programs into daily learning.</li> </ul>

Foster a love of learning by actively engaging students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Supporting &amp; challenging students in a positive learning environment.</li> <li>● Differentiate learning opportunities for all.</li> <li>● Cater for student preferred learning styles</li> </ul>
Engage in learning experiences that are authentic and purposeful.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Encourage students to discover, explore and create in a variety of ways.</li> <li>● Incorporating and applying real life situations to student learning.</li> <li>● Provide meaningful learning experiences.</li> </ul>

**Evaluation:**

We will monitor the implementation of this policy by:

- Revisiting annually especially in the induction of new staff
- Reflecting on our policy in preparation for our Annual Review Meetings
- Undertaking a formal policy review in 5 years time

Reviewed: March 2020

Next review: March 2022